IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	: Allan et al.	Art Unit	: 3693
Serial No.	: 09/696,099	Examiner	: Lalita M. Hamilton
Filed	: October 25, 2000	Conf. No.	: 4131
Title	: VALUE TRANSACTION SYSTEMS		

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
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REPLY BRIEF

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.41, Applicant responds to the Examiner's Answer as follows.

Page 5 of the Examiner's Answer states as follows:

> The Appellant argues that neither Coutts nor Soltesz discloses or teaches a processor that is operable to upload an application from a transaction unit where the application is operable to perform controlling functions for that same transaction unit. In response, Soltesz teaches that new programs may be uploaded or downloaded into the device to keep up with new advances in processor, memory, and communications technology (p. 3, 34). These programs may be uploaded or downloaded into the kiosk in order to update/control operation of the transaction units within the kiosk. The application may be operable to perform controlling functions for that same transaction unit.

The Examiner's Answer indicates that the Examiner either has not properly interpreted the claims or has not properly applied the Soltesz reference (alone or in combination with the Coutts reference), or both.

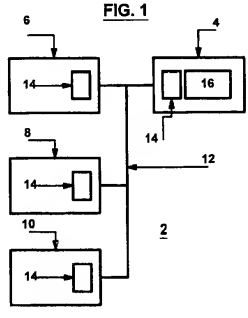
As previously explained, the pending claims relate to value transaction systems in which code is uploaded from one or more transaction units and used to control operation of the same transaction unit(s). As an example, claim 1 recites:

> 1. A value transaction system comprising a plurality of transaction units and a controller having a processor and memory means, the controller being operable to

upload from said transaction units respective run-time interpreted code units for storing in said memory means, the controller being operable to execute the code of each respective code unit and in response thereto to generate signals controlling the operation of the respective transaction units.

Thus, code units are uploaded from transaction units and, upon execution by the controller, are used to generate signals controlling the operation of the same transaction units from which the code units were uploaded. In the example of FIG. 1 (reproduced below), code units are uploaded from the transaction units (*e.g.*, banknote validator 6, card reader 8 and/or vending machine 10) and are executed by the controller (*e.g.*, controller 16). In response to execution of the code units, the controller generates signals to control operation of the same transaction units (*e.g.*, banknote validator 6, card reader 8 and/or vending machine 10).

FIG. 1



The Examiner's Answer refers to page 3, par. 34 of the Soltesz reference.[1] That section of the Soltesz reference reads as follows:

> [0034] It will of course be appreciated by those skilled in the art [sic] are exemplary only, and that any of the specifications can be changed to meet the needs of the application and to keep up with advances in processor, memory, and communications technology. This is also true of software used in the kiosk, which in the above described system may be run on a Windows NT 4.0.TM. platform, or be compatible with NetWare, Novell, UNIX, Macintosh, Banyan VINES, LAN Manager 2.x, Window 95, or any other current or future operating system software, and which may optionally include a PPP/SLIP, advanced Java, and/or ActiveX capable communications program to enable connection to the Internet, either for use in providing Internet services to customers or to communicate with a service provider for accounting or diagnostic purposes, *or for downloading or uploading new programs following authentication.* Internet connectivity can be provided by direct connection to a developer host through a COM port, network connection through the Ethernet, Internet connections through a modem or proxy server, or direct dial-up through a modem.

(Emphasis added) Although the Solesz reference mentions uploading/downloading new programs to the kiosk, any such new programs are obtained via Internet connectivity. There is no disclosure that any programs are uploaded <u>from</u> transaction units associated with the kiosk and then used to control operation of the <u>same</u> transaction units.

Similar remarks apply to the other pending claims.

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[1] At page 7 of Appellant's Brief on Appeal, Appellant stated that prior Office actions referred to paragraphs 3 and 34 of the Soltesz reference. However, *paragraph* 3 of the Soltesz reference says absolutely nothing about uploading or downloading programs. Therefore, it appears that the Examiner was referring to *page* 3, paragraph 34.

For these reasons, and the reasons stated in the Appeal Brief, Applicant submits that the final rejections should be reversed.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4/2/08

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